

B. Claims

Please cancel claims 2, 7, 13, 14, 17, 18, 21, and 22. Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A computer implemented method for peer review over a communications network, comprising:
- receiving an article from an author via a communications network;
- querying a database of potential reviewers to determine a qualified reviewer;
- assigning a qualified reviewer to the article;
- providing an evaluation form to the reviewer;
- receiving a completed evaluation form from the reviewer;
- providing the completed evaluation form to the author;
- receiving a response from the author directly in the completed evaluation form;
- providing the completed evaluation form with author responses to an editor;
- receiving a publication decision from the editor; and
- providing the publication decision to the author and the reviewer.

2. Canceled. ✓

A7 3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 whereby the qualified reviewer is determined according to availability and past performance, including timeliness, thoroughness, clarity, and the number of completed reviews.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3 whereby the receiving an article step further comprises:
- generating a ranked list of keywords related to the article;
- providing the list of keywords to the author; and
- receiving an approval of the ranked list from the author.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 whereby the receiving a completed evaluation form step further comprises:
- receiving comments entered directly into the evaluation form.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 whereby the receiving an article step further comprises:
automatically reformatting the article into a standard format; and
presenting the reformatted article to the author for approval.

7. Canceled.

~~A8~~ 8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 whereby the providing the publication decision step further comprises:
informing the author of the publication decision by email.

~~Sub B2~~ 9. (Amended) A computer implemented method for peer review over a communications network,
comprising:
receiving an article from an author via a communications network;
searching a database of potential reviewers;
generating a ranked list of qualified reviewers;
contacting each qualified reviewer and requesting that the qualified reviewer agree to review
the article;
receiving an agreement from one or more qualified reviewers;
providing the article to an accepting qualified reviewer;
providing an evaluation form to the accepting qualified reviewer;
receiving a completed evaluation form from the accepting qualified reviewer;
providing the author with the completed evaluation form;
receiving a response from the author directly in the completed evaluation form;
providing the completed evaluation form with author responses to an editor;
receiving a publication decision from the editor; and
providing the publication decision to the author and the reviewer.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 9 whereby the accepting qualified reviewers complete the
evaluation form online.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 10 whereby each accepting qualified reviewer for an article has access to completed evaluation forms of other accepting qualified reviewers after submitting an evaluation form for the same article.

~~12.~~ (Amended) The method of claim 11 whereby each accepting qualified reviewer can set access privileges for a section of the reviewer's completed evaluation form.

13. Canceled.

14. Canceled.

~~A9~~ 15. (Amended) The method of claim 9 whereby the receiving an article step further comprises:
reformatting the article into a standard format.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 9 whereby the searching a database step further comprises:
parsing the title and text of the article to generate a list of keywords;
ranking the list of keywords according to their relative weight in describing the content of the
article; and
searching the database to generate a list of qualified reviewers.

17. Canceled.

18. Canceled.

~~A10~~ 19. (Amended) The method of claim 9 whereby the article iterates through the peer review process
until the article is approved for publication.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 19 whereby after the article has been approved for publication, further comprising:

creating a galley proof of the article;

providing the galley proof to the author and editor;

receiving an approval of the galley proof from the author and editor; and immediately publishing the article in an electronic format.

21. Canceled.

22. Canceled.

All 23. (Amended) The method of claim 9 whereby a group of authors collaborate to co-author an article, further comprising:

receiving a co-authored article via a communications network.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

receiving a response from each co-author directly in the completed evaluation form.